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LIST OF CONTENTS AND AUTHOR INDEX

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The *International Journal of Nursing Studies* publishes material of interest to an international readership of nurses, midwives and others interested in nursing and caring sciences. It informs readers about changes and developments worldwide and so contributes to advances in health care both inside and outside hospitals. The material published may contribute to developments in practice, education and the organisation of health services. Authors are invited to submit original research papers and other scholarly papers for publication on any subject considered to be of international interest to the readership. The Editors also welcome critical reviews of the literature and concise papers reflecting topical issues.

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LIST OF CONTENTS

NUMBER 1

M. Anderson, P. Standen, S. Nazir and J. P. Noon	1	Nurses' and doctors' attitudes towards suicidal behaviour in young people
K. Öhrling and I. R. Hallberg	13	Student nurses' lived experience of preceptorship. Part 1 — in relation to learning
K. Öhrling and I. R. Hallberg	25	Student nurses' lived experience of preceptorship. Part 2 — the preceptor–preceptee relationship
R. J. Sisk	37	Caregiver burden and health promotion
R. Hagey and R. W. MacKay	45	Qualitative research to identify racialist discourse: towards equity in nursing curricula
S. F. Leung and D. Arthur	57	The alcohol use disorders identification test (AUDIT): validation of an instrument for enhancing nursing practice in Hong Kong
J. LeGris, R. Weir, G. Browne, A. Gafni, L. Stewart and S. Easton	65	Developing a model of collaborative research: the complexities and challenges of implementation
N. J. Jarrett and S. A. Payne	81	Creating and maintaining 'optimism' in cancer care communication
		Book reviews
M. Malone	91	*Research Opportunities in Primary Care*; Yvonne Carter and Cathryn Thomas
S. Faithfull	92	*Neuro-oncology for Nurses*; Douglas Guerrero

NUMBER 2

J. Wilson-Barnett	93	Editorial
N. Schmitz, W. Neumann and R. Oppermann	95	Stress, burnout and locus of control in German nurses
K. Bernaerts, G. Evers and W. Sermeus	101	Frequency of intravenous medication administration to hospitalised patients: secondary data-analysis of the Belgian Nursing Minimum Data Set
B. Berglund, G. Nordström and K. Lützén	111	Living a restricted life with Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome (EDS)
M. Al-Hassan and M. Wierenga	119	Exercise participation decisions of Jordanian myocardial infarction patients: application of the decisional conflict theory
S. P. Small and M. Lamb	127	Measurement of fatigue in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and in asthma
J. D. Roberts	135	Problem-solving skills of senior student nurses: an exploratory study using simulation
B. Blackwood	145	The art and science of predicting patient readiness for weaning from mechanical ventilation
P. Griffiths, J. Wilson-Barnett, G. Richardson, K. Spilsbury, F. Miller and R. Harris	153	The effectiveness of intermediate care in a nursing-led in-patient unit
R. J. Burke and E. R. Greenglass	163	Effects of hospital restructuring on full time and part time nursing staff in Ontario

K. Rowe and J. Macleod Clark	173	Why nurses smoke: a review of the literature
		Book review
K. Gournay	183	*Psychiatric Nursing Revisited — The Care Provided for Acute Psychiatric Patients*; Ray Higgins, Keith Hurst, Gerald Wistow

NUMBER 3

A. Richards, J. Carley, S. Jenkins-Clarke and D. A. Richards	185	Skill mix between nurses and doctors working in primary care-delegation or allocation: a review of the literature
A. Kaila-Behm and K. Vehviläinen-Julkunen	199	Ways of being a father: how first-time fathers and public health nurses perceive men as fathers
C. J. Kipping	207	Stress in mental health nursing
S. Cowley, A. Bergen, K. Young and A. Kavanagh	219	Generalising to theory: the use of a multiple case study design to investigate needs assessment and quality of care in community nursing
J. Warren, I. Holloway and P. Smith	229	Fitting in: maintaining a sense of self during hospitalisation
S. Horrocks	237	Hunting for Heidegger: questioning the sources in the Benner/Cash debate
P. Griffiths and J. Wilson-Barnett	245	Influences on length of stay in intermediate care: lessons from the nursing-led inpatient unit studies
V. Nahas	257	A transcultural study of Jordanian nursing students' care encounters within the context of clinical education
I. M. Proot, H. H. Abu-Saad, W. P. de Esch-Janssen, H. F. J. M. Crebolder and R. H. J. ter Meulen	267	Patient autonomy during rehabilitation: the experiences of stroke patients in nursing homes
		Book review
L. Goodyer	277	*Nurse Prescribing*; Jenifer L. Humphries, Joyce Green

NUMBER 4

J. Nixon, J. Brown, D. McElvenny, S. Mason and S. Bond	279	Prognostic factors associated with pressure sore development in the immediate post-operative period
P. D. Williams, A. R. Williams, M. Lopez and N. P. Tayko	291	Mothers' developmental expectations for young children in the Philippines
S. E. Thorne, K. T. Nyhlin and B. L. Paterson	303	Attitudes toward patient expertise in chronic illness
R. J. G. Halfens, T. Van Achterberg and R. M. Bal	313	Validity and reliability of the Braden scale and the influence of other risk factors: a multi-centre prospective study
C. Mackintosh	321	"Is there a place for "care" within nursing?"
P. Barker	329	Reflections on caring as a virtue ethic within an evidence-based culture
H. Reynolds, J. Wilson-Barnett and G. Richardson	337	Evaluation of the role of the Parkinson's disease nurse specialist
J. E. Rutty	351	Her Majesty's coroners and Home Office forensic pathologists perception of the nurses' role in the coroner's enquiry
O. Söderhamn, C. Lindencrona and A.-C. Ek	361	Ability for self-care among home dwelling elderly people in a health district in Sweden
		Book review

J. Wilson-Barnett	369	*Handbook of Clinical Nursing Research*; Ada Sue Hinshaw, Suzanne L. Fetham & Joan L. F. Shover
		NUMBER 5
L. Dinç and F. Erdil	371	The effectiveness of an educational intervention in changing nursing practice and preventing catheter-related infection for patients receiving total parenteral nutrition
R. Newell and M. Clarke	381	Evaluation of a self-help leaflet in treatment of social difficulties following facial disfigurement
J. Wilson-Barnett, K. L. Barriball, H. Reynolds, S. Jowett and I. Ryrie	389	Recognising advancing nursing practice: evidence from two observational studies
M. Krishnasamy	401	Fatigue in advanced cancer — meaning before measurement?
N. Yamamoto-Mitani, M. Tamura, Y. Deguchi, K. Ito and C. Sugishita	415	The attitude of Japanese family caregivers toward the elderly with dementia
W. Petro-Nustas	423	University students' knowledge of AIDS
S.-L. Tsai	435	Nurses' participation and utilization of research in the Republic of China
J. W. Albarran and D. Salmon	445	Lesbian, gay and bisexual experiences within critical care nursing, 1988–1998: a survey of the literature
M. Nolan, R. Owen, M. Curran and A. Venables	457	Reconceptualising the outcomes of Continuing Professional Development
		NUMBER 6
S. Latter, P. Yerrell, J. Rycroft-Malone and D. Shaw	469	Nursing, medication education and the new policy agenda: the evidence base
K. Thompson, J. Boore and P. Deeny	481	A comparison of an international experience for nursing students in developed and developing countries
H. McCrea, M. E. Wright and M. Stringer	493	Psychosocial factors influencing personal control in pain relief
C. F. Musgrave and I. Soudry	505	An exploratory pilot study of nurse-midwives' attitudes toward active euthanasia and abortion
L. A. Loftus and J. McDowell	513	The lived experience of the oncology clinical nurse specialist
S. Atkins and S. J. Ersser	523	Education for advanced nursing practice: an evolving framework
R. Pongruengphant and P. D. Tyson	535	When nurses cry: coping with occupational stress in Thailand
J. Clark, M. Craft-Rosenberg and C. Delaney	541	An international methodology to describe clinical nursing phenomena: a team approach
		Book reviews
L. Goodyer	555	*Fundamentals of Pharmacology: A Text For Nurses and Health Professionals*; Azan Galwraith, Shan Bullock, Elizabeth Manias, Barry Hunt & Ann Richards
T. Day	555	*Textbook of Intensive Care*; David Goldhill and Stuart Withington
	III	Contents Index for Volume 37 (2000)
	VI	Author Index for Volume 37 (2000)